

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

**September 27, 2002**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mary Briden, Doug DeSanti, Bob Lashua, Dr. Kay Lewis, Marilyn Price, Jerry Stein, and Donald K. Uhles

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Patricia Ellis, Dr. Charles Finch, Dr. John Gallagher, and Bill White

**GUESTS:** Orlando Alcorido Jr., Janine Anderson, Christopher Black, Barbara Bovee, Bob Costello, Dan Donahue, Wanda Larson, Jim Morgan, Brian Smith, Bert Thomas, Roberto Torres, Gary Woods, Linda Worthy, and Steve Zapata

**BEMS STAFF:** Judi Crume, Victor Dominguez, Larry Heidenberg, Lorenzo Henry, Chuck Kramer, Peggy Lahren, Dona Markley, Susan Nicolas, Howard Schwartz, and Larry Lorenzen

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Kay Lewis called the regular meeting of the Education Committee to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

#### **II. DISCUSS/AMEND and APPROVE AGENDA**

Kay Lewis asked that under Item IV (DHS Report/Information) could Item B (Report on the Rules Package on Items Affecting Training Programs) be heard first and the Committee members agreed. A motion was made by Doug DeSanti and seconded by Mary Briden to approve the Agenda with this one change. Motion carried.

#### **III. DISCUSS/AMEND and APPROVE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mary Briden, seconded by Doug DeSanti, to approve the Minutes from May 17, 2002, as presented. Motion carried.

#### **IV. DHS REPORT/INFORMATION**

##### **A. Report on the Rules Package on Items Affecting Training Programs**

Dona Marie Markley, BEMS Rules Analyst, gave an overview of the Bureau's current Title 9, Chapter 25 rule revision. She stated that, as required by Arizona law, the Bureau conducted a review of all current rules in Chapter 25, Articles 1 through 6, and determined that the rules required revision to update them, simplify them, make them representative of best industry practice, and make them consistent with statutes. She explained that the Bureau is in the "informal" stage of rulemaking and is working with stakeholders to develop a viable regulatory scheme to guide the writing of the rules. Ms. Markley stated that there have been three meetings so far and the next meetings are scheduled for October 24 and October 25. Although stakeholders are being invited by the Bureau to participate in the various discussions, other interested parties are welcome to attend and observe. Once the Bureau begins the "formal" stage of rulemaking and adopts a "proposed version of the rules," everyone will be encouraged to review the rules and comment on them.

Kay Lewis encouraged attendance at the Rule Review Sessions, especially the training program issues, the first being October 25, 2002.

**B. Welcome to New Member(s)**

Dr. Judi Crume introduced and welcomed Mary Briden, Director of Educational Programs and Partnerships for Rio Salado College, as the newest member of the Education Committee.

**C. Review of Bylaws for Approval by EMS Council in October**

Judi talked about changes in the standing committees' bylaws made by the EMS Council Executive Committee, in specific, changes in committee membership. She said that the Executive Committee has been looking at the bylaws to try and streamline the committees by getting the representation down to a "working science." The "working science" basically says that groups and committees up to 11 members produce effective decision-making. Beyond 11 members sometimes loses its effectiveness. The Executive Committee used this premise to change the standing committees' bylaws to state that there will be no more than 11 members in a committee, there will be no time limitation on how long a member can be on a committee, and each committee's membership will be reviewed on an annual basis by the committee's Chair, the Bureau's Medical Director and the Bureau Chief to see if the membership matches the committee's current charges and directions and, if not, make adjustments to the committee's membership to compliment those current charges/directions making sure to keep the committee's membership down to 11 or less. She finished by saying that the Bureau very much values the expertise of the volunteers of the EMS community who tirelessly provide their efforts and energies to move forward the State's EMS system.

**V. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Kay Lewis said she has been working on the Executive Committee with DHS on the bylaws and membership revision package and a good thing that has come out of this is that the Bureau has pledged open disclosure with the committees so that we will be kept up with any changes that come in the future and not have any surprises thrown at us unexpectedly.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Training Program Inventory Recommendation**

Howard Schwartz, Bureau of EMS, gave a presentation on this item. A group made up of representatives from training programs from all over the state, BLS and ALS, community colleges and fire departments, met on July 9<sup>th</sup> of this year to discuss the training program inventory and come up with an inventory list satisfactory to all concerned. A discussion ensued on the revised inventory list and Kay Lewis then asked that each of the six recommendations from the July 9<sup>th</sup> group be looked and voted on, if needed, on an individual basis. A motion by Doug DeSanti, seconded by Jerry Stein, to accept the recommendation that a letter of agreement be submitted between the training programs or whomever is going to be helping make sure the equipment is available. Motion carried.

A motion by Doug DeSanti and seconded by Marilyn Price to accept the recommendation that a statement be provided at the time of program application for initial and renewal certification that the program has equipment and supplies that meet the requirements of the course. Motion carried.

A motion by Doug DeSanti, seconded by Jerry Stein, to accept the recommendation to remove the exhibits having to do with program inventories. Motion carried.

These decisions will be sent forward to EMS Council and to the Rules Review Task Force for study and inclusion. The other three considerations/recommendations were dropped.

**B. Funding for EMT-I Transition Programs**

Judi presented this item and, after a discussion by the Committee and guests, asked for this item to be postponed until the next meeting so she could do some more research into this. Kay Lewis agreed.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Criminal History Screening Requirements**

A motion by Jerry Stein, seconded by Doug DeSanti, to recommend a change in the Rules Package to mandate the attaching of the Criminal History Disclosure form to the Recertification Application. Kay Lewis polled the members of agencies present to determine if this would be counterproductive to their employees and their agencies. There were no negative comments, and many individuals offered support. Motion carried – to EMSC as an Information Item and to the Rules Review Task Force for consideration.

**B. Status of Paramedic Candidates Failing National Registry Exams 3 Times**

Wanda Larson presented this item explaining that up till now, if a paramedic candidate fails the National Registry Exam three times, he or she is required to take the entire paramedic course again. She would like to see this changed to, “if the candidate fails the National Registry Exam three times, he or she can take an ALS refresher course then have a chance to take the National Registry Exam up to three more times”. A motion by Jerry Stein with a second by Doug DeSanti that for any individual who has failed the National Registry Exam three times at a basic or advanced level, then that individual, within one calendar year, be allowed to complete a refresher course and then be allowed three more attempts to take the National Registry Exam. This would be consistent with National Registry Policy. A lengthy discussion ensued dealing with the concept of remediation after the first failure of the National Registry Exam and again if there is a failure of the second National Registry Exam attempt. The motion was then voted on. Motion carried (4 – Yeas, 1 – Nay, 0 – Abstentions) - to EMS Council as an agenda item and to the Rules Review Task Force for inclusion.

**C. Final Exam Template for BLS and ALS Training Programs**

Kay Lewis presented that in the past, if a training program wanted to make a change to the final exam template, they needed to get the change okayed by the Bureau. Victor Dominguez said that the Rules Package has a template that was originally based on the National Registry Exam template but because of changes in the National Registry's template, the Arizona template is now obsolete. Victor suggested that the template be taken out of the Rules Package and put in the training program's curriculum requirements. A motion by Doug DeSanti, seconded by Mary Briden, to remove from Rule the template for final exams for any ALS or BLS training program and that the documentation be available at the time of program review. Motion carried – to EMS Council as an agenda Item and to the Rules Review Task Force for inclusion.

**D. Customer Service Surveys of Training Programs**

Kay Lewis suggested that the Committee Members look at the survey for any possible changes. This will be discussed in the Rules Review Task Force dealing with Training Programs. No action by the Committee.

**E. Status of ALS Distance Learning Programs and Curricula**

Because the presenter of this item, Chief Bill White, could not make it to the meeting, Kay Lewis postponed this item until the next meeting on November 22, 2002.

**F. EMT-Intermediate Transition Course**

Christopher Black and Chief Bob Costello presented this item. Their view was that there is not enough time allocated to some of the sections of this course. Their suggestion to the training programs is that when they are setting up this course, they look at the time for each section and make adjustments so that there will be enough time for each section. Also one of the Committee members wanted to add to the curricula. Kay Lewis said that the Rules Review Task Force would look at this particular course and possibly make adjustments. No action by the Committee.

**G. National Registry Testing (ALS)**

Victor stated that a problem has surfaced related to the National Registry testing. Since the National Registry testing is now being handled by each training program, a lot of the tests have only been open to the specific training program students. There have been individuals, especially from out-of-state, who have wanted to take the National Registry test but couldn't because of the closed testing sessions. Victor asked that all the training programs go back to a spirit of cooperation and, if they have room in their National Registry testing, please allow these individuals to take the tests with their students. No action by the Committee.

**H. Final Practical Examination (BLS)**

Victor told the Committee that during a recent audit it was discovered that one of the training programs did not follow National Registry rules when they administered their final practical exam. Because of this, the training program had

to retest all of those students at the training program's expense. Victor went on to stress to all of the training programs that they need to follow the National Registry rules when they administer final practical exams at the end of the course, especially making sure all the final paperwork is done properly. There was no action required by the Committee.

**I. BLS Skills Testing: Moulage and Models**

Kay Lewis told the Committee that she confirmed with the National Registry that it is okay for an individual who has completed skills testing successfully to go into another class and act as a moulage victim or silent partner. No action required by the Committee.

**VIII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

1. Gary Woods, Assistant Chief of the Honeywell Fire Department, gave a presentation on two pilot projects at Honeywell. The two pilot projects are called "Amyl Nitrite Pilot Project," which deals with EMT-Bs employed by Honeywell administering Amyl Nitrite to victims of Hydrogen Cyanide exposure before ALS arrival, and "Calcium Gluconate Pilot Project," which has to do with EMT-Bs administering Calcium Gluconate Gel to victims of Hydrofluoric acid exposure before ALS arrival. Chief Wood passed out two documents, one titled "Amyl Nitrite Pilot Project" and the other titled "Calcium Gluconate Pilot Project." After his presentation and a discussion by the Committee members, Gary requested that these two projects be placed on the Medical Direction Commission Agenda for October 25, to give the Commission an annual update on these two projects. Judi and Kay Lewis agreed with the suggestion. Kay Lewis requested Gary to make enough copies of the two handouts for the Medical Direction Commission and he agreed.

**IX. MEMBERS' EDUCATIONAL and INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None to report.

**X. NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Education Committee is scheduled for November 22, 2002, at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda Items that will be forwarded to the November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting (under "Old Business"):

1. Report on the Rules Package on Items Affecting Training Programs
2. Funding for EMT-I Transition Programs
3. Status of ALS Distance Learning Programs and Curricula

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Doug DeSanti motioned for adjournment, Jerry Stein seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Approved by: Education Committee on 11/22/02